

# MOVIE CITY NEWS MCN

*The occasionally scary Swedish import, "Mara," tells the story of a voluptuous blond, Jenny, who, as a girl, witnessed a terrible tragedy take place at home and has been scarred by its memory. Jenny is encouraged by her shrink to return to the residence, which is surrounded by forest, to confront her fears and anxiety. That might be good advice for guests on "Dr. Phil," but not for characters in horror movies. If it were made in America, "Mara" wouldn't be much different than a couple thousand other slow-build genre flicks released since "Psycho." It stands out from the crowd in Scandinavia, however, because filmmakers there have yet to begin churning out slasher and other gore-fests by the dozens. Made for a miniscule \$10,000, "Mara" looks as if it cost much more money. Credit for this goes to Pidde Andersson, a native-born Swede whose resume includes technical work on six different "Bikini Something-or-Other" flicks. In fact, Andersson is the only person on the cast or crew who has more than one IMDB.com credit to his name. The film's biggest draw, however, is the debut of model Angelica Jansson, who may be as well-known in Europe as Cindy Crawford was when she made "Fair Game." She's a bona-fide babe with a fresh Nordic looks, expressive eyes and a body that looks great even in blood drenched panties and soiled cotton tank top. The bonus features are Jansson-centric, as well.*

Even by the low standards to which micro-budget DIY horror flicks are held, **"Everybody Must Die!"** smacks of "Amateur Night in Dixie." Made for an estimated \$3,500 by Pennsylvania gore auteur Paul Rudzinski ("Scream Park"), "EMD" documents the slaughter of young adults in several small towns, in which people lounge around, drinking beer, while a slasher or slashers are on the loose. The villain is a seemingly immortal swordsman, who dresses in a black ninja outfit and appears out of nowhere when potential victims find their way onto his radar screen. After his sister is killed by the indiscriminate villain, the handsome and brave Kyle (Nick Lamantia) joins hands with local law-enforcement officials to end the bloodshed. Although the best thing about "EMD" is the willingness of the Rubenesque actresses to go topless whenever the story begins to run out of steam, aspiring DIY filmmakers might pick up some tricks and cheap laughs from its attempts to satirize genre conventions. Making a film for peanuts and finding distribution, after all, is frequently more difficult than shooting one backed by millions of dollars of other people's money. The bonus package adds interviews, a music video, bloopers and alternate takes. —Gary Dretzka

<http://moviecitynews.com/2013/06/the-dvd-wrapup-jack-the-giant-slayer-its-a-disaster-brass-teapot-movie-43-let-my-people-go-come-out-and-play-rectify-more/>